

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ROME 05267 301735Z
ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 SS-15 /029 W
-----311549Z 058613 /44-S
R 301633Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3708

S E C R E T ROME 5267

FOR MAYNES ONLY IO

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: FAO
SUBJECT: FAO DIRECTOR GENERAL'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON

SUMMARY: FAO DIRECTOR GENERAL CALLED IN DEPUTY U.S. REPRESENTATIVE TO FAO MARCH 29 TO REVIEW DG'S TRIP TO WASHINGTON AND CANADA. CONVERSATION WAS FRANK AND MOSTLY CONCERNED SENIOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION, WORLD FOOD PROGRAM, AND WORLD FOOD COUNCIL PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS. DIRECTOR GENERAL ALSO REFERRED TO HIS ARGUMENTS RE FAO BUDGET, SUSPENSE ACCOUNT, FUNDING OF POST-HARVEST LOSSES, USE OF ARABIC, AND FAO ELECTIONS OF DIRECTOR GENERAL WHICH ARE COVERED IN SEPTEL. END SUMMARY

1. SAOUMA BEGAN BY EXPRESSING HIS APPRECIATION FOR VISIT BUT THAT TIMING WAS NOT GOOD FOR LONG, SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS OF ISSUES. SAOUMA STRESSED HE DID HAVE GOOD TALK WITH MAYNS, ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR IO BUT REST OF VISITS WERE MORE PROTOCOL CALLS. SAOUMA IS HOPING THAT SECRETARY FOR AGRICULTURE BERGLAND WILL BE ABLE TO SPEND A DAY AT THE FAO IN ROME IN CONNECTION WITH HIS EUROPEAN TRIP TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR LATE MAY.

2. SAOUMA REFERRED TO HIS CONVERSATION ON THE POST OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAM. HE

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 ROME 05267 301735Z

MADE CLEAR HE PREFERRED AN AMERICAN FOR THE TOP JOB AND EVEN WAS GLAD TO EXTEND ROBINSON FOR 6-8 MONTHS, BUT HE UNDERSTANDS AN AMERICAN IS NOW OUT OF THE QUESTION WITH OUR SUPPORT OF THE CANADIAN, VOGEL, FOR THE TOP JOB.

3. SAOUMA EXPLAINED HE COULD NOT GIVE MAYNES UNEQUIV-

OCAL SUPPORT FOR VOGEL UNTIL SAOUMA AND VOGEL COULD COME TO AN UNDERSTANDING ON THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION AND THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAM. IN FACT IN CANADA SAOUMA FOUND VOGEL A MODEST, SINCERE AMN WHOM SAOUMA BELIEVES HE CAN WORK WITH. VOGEL GAVE SAOUMA ASSURANCES THAT HE WOULD NOT ATTEMPT TO UPSET THE PRESENT FAO/WFP STATUS QUO WHICH LEAVES SAOUMA IN A STRONG POSITION. SAOUMA, HOWEVER, NOTICES THAT FRANK SHEFRIN, CANADA'S FAO EXPERT, IS CHAIRMAN OF A WORLD FOOD PROGRAM RULES COMMITTEE WHICH REPORTS TO COMMITTEE ON FOOD AID POLICIES IN MAY WHICH COULD CHANGE THE STATUS QUO. SHEFRIN CAN ALSO, SAOUMA NOTED, BE EXPECTED TO OPPOSE THE FAO PROGRAM OF WORK AND BUDGET, ESPECIALLY THE USE OF THE SUSPENSE ACCOUNT. THEREFORE, SAOUMA HAD DECIDED NOT TO ACT ON THE VOGEL APPOINTMENT TO THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAM UNTIL AFTER THE FAO COUNCIL. THEN, IF ALL GOES WELL, A LETTER FROM THE UN SYG WILL BE SENT TO MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOOD AID FOR THEIR APPROVAL WITH ALL STEPS COMPLETED IN AUGUST OR SEPTEMBER.

4. SAOUMA WENT OVER THE CONDITIONS PROPOSED BY MAYNES FOR OUR SUPPORT OF VOGEL. SAOUMA HAS NO PROBLEM WITH THE APPOINTMENT OF AN AMERICAN TO BE THE WFP DIRECTOR FOR PROGRAM MANAGEMENT. HE ALSO UNDERSTOOD AND AGREED THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO HAVE THE DEPUTY DG OF THE FAO BE A VERY CAPABLE AMERICAN. HE WOULD NOT COMMIT HIMSELF ON THE DIRECTOR OF THE INVESTMENT CENTER. HE WOULD GIVE PRIORITY TO CONSIDERING U.S.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 ROME 05267 301735Z

CANDIDATES, BUT THIS IS A CRUCIAL JOB AND HE WANTS THE BEST CANDIDATE HE CAN FIND REGARDLESS OF NATIONALITY. HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT MCNAMARA OF WORLD BANK HAD TO APPROVE ASAOUMA'S CANDIDATE.

5. SAOUMA THEN SHIFTED TO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL DR. HANNAH'S INTEREST IN CONTINUING IN HIS POSITION. ACCORDING TO SAOUMA, UN SYG WALDHEIM IS WILLING TO EXTEND HANNAH IN THIS POSITION FOR SOME MONTHS. SAOUMA EXPLAINED SITUATION IN ROME TO SYG, AND IT WAS AGREED TO EXTEND HANNAH 2 OR 3 MONTHS AFTER WFC SESSION IN MANILA JUNE 20-25. THIS WOULD EXTEND HANNAH AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UNTIL AUGUST OR SEPTEMBER 1977.

6. SAOUMA ALSO SAID HE WAS ABOUT 80 PERCENT CERTAIN HE HAD RECRUITED TWO MORE AMERICANS FOR TOP JOBS-- STATISTICS AND ANIMAL HEALTH.

7. FINALLY SAOUMA POINTED OUT THAT HE HAS MADE A
GREAT EFFORT TO RECRUIT MORE AMERICANS FOR TOP JOBS.

HE ALSO STATED HE WOULD BE ATTACKED BY GROUP OF 77
REDICALS FOR APPOINTING SO MANY AMERICANS (AND
CANADIANS) AND, IF HIS MAIN PROPOSALS OF ASSISTANCE
TO DEVELOPING WORLD, SEPTEL, WERE ATTATTACKED, HE WOULD
HAVE GAINED NOTHING. THUS IN SLIGHTLY MORE DELICATE
FASHION, HE HAS WARNED USG AS WELL AS CANADA WHAT
HE WANTS FROM THEM AT NAO COUNCIL.

8. COMMENT: SAOUMA WILL BE MEETING AGAIN WITH WALD-
HEIM IN PARIS WEEK OF APRIL 4 AT THE IACB, SO
USO HAS OPPORTUNITY TO PASS MESSAGE TO SAOUMA ON VOGEL
OR HANNAH BEFORE MEETING WITH WALDHEIM.GARDNER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGRICULTURE, VISITS, MEETINGS, FOODS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 30-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ROME05267
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770110-0989
Format: TEL
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977036/aaaaafcw.tel
Line Count: 130
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f435f8b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3109555
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FAO DIRECTOR GENERAL'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON SUMMARY: FAO DIRECTOR GENERAL CALLED IN DEPUTY U.S. REPRESENTATIVE TO FAO MARCH 29 TO REVIEW DG'S TRIP TO
TAGS: EAGR, PORO, US, FAO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f435f8b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009